

[6 March, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

the FDI inflow in the year 2004-05 was US\$6.05 billion, it has increased to US\$7.72 billion in the year 2005-06; and in the first 10 months of the current financial year 2006-07, it has already reached the level of US\$12.51 billion.

(c) Government has put in place a liberal and transparent FDI policy according to which FDI upto 100% under the automatic route is allowed in most sectors/activities. The FDI policy including caps on foreign equity limits and procedures are reviewed on a continuing basis with a view to creating an improved investment regime for attracting higher FDI inflow. A review of the FDI policy was undertaken by the Government in January 2006 whereby further rationalization measures were implemented. Government of India has also set up the Foreign Investment Implementation Authority (FIIA) *vide* resolution dated 9th August, 1999 to facilitate quick translation of FDI approvals into implementation, to provide a pro-active one stop after care service to foreign investors by helping them obtain necessary approvals, sort out operational problems and meet with various Government agencies to find solution to their problems.

Corruption in IT department

761. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are following Pay Tax, Kara Relax;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government are aware that just with Rs.500, one can beat the queues-courtesy touts and corrupt tax clerks;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government have not made saral arrangements at the Mayur Bhavan to receive the applications; if so, the reasons therefor;
- (f) what is the level of corruption in the Income Tax Department reported during each of the last two years, State-wise and cadre-wise;
- (g) the action taken against such corrupt employees; and
- (h) whether Government are showing laxity on curbing corruption especially in IT Department, if so the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) "Pay Tax, Kara Relax" is a slogan being used by the Income Tax Department to promote voluntary compliance of tax laws by the taxpayers. The slogan is intended to encourage the taxpayers to willingly pay their legitimate taxes and enjoy peace of mind.

(c) and (d) Suitable administrative/disciplinary action will be taken in cases where instances of such corrupt practices are brought to the notice of the Government.

(e) The facilities for receiving returns of income (including Saral forms) are available at the Income Tax office at Mayur Bhawan, New Delhi on all working days. Moreover, special arrangements are made by the Department for receiving large number of returns on days close to the last dates of filing.

(f) and (g) All-India data relating to action taken with regard to corruption-related matters in respect of various grades of officers and officials during the period under reference is as follows:

Year	Charge-sheet Issued			Penalties Levied		
	Group A	Group B	Group C&D	Group A	Group B	Group C&D
2005	37	23	49	7*	6	22
2006	49	15	37	9*	11	18

* Does not include cases where disciplinary proceedings were dropped with issue of administrative warning or President's displeasure, or where disciplinary proceedings were abated or where disciplinary proceedings were closed due to orders of Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) or the Courts.

State-wise details of charge-sheet issued and penalties levied are not centrally maintained.

(h) There is no laxity shown by the Government in curbing corruption in the Income Tax Department.